



A manga cover illustration. In the background, a large, pale, spiky-haired creature with a single eye is sitting at a desk, eating a green cucumber. In the foreground, a young girl with short brown hair, wearing a white school shirt with a red bow and a blue pleated skirt, sits on a desk. Behind her is a large red rocket-shaped object. The floor is made of light brown wooden planks. The title 'TWIN SPICA' is written in large, stylized, orange-outlined white letters across the middle. Below it, the author's name 'Kou Yaginuma' is written in red. In the bottom left corner, a yellow starburst contains the number '7'. Several yellow lines with circular nodes extend from the title area across the cover.

TWIN SPICA

Kou Yaginuma

7

TWIN SPICA



Kou Yaginuma

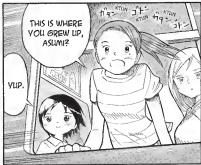
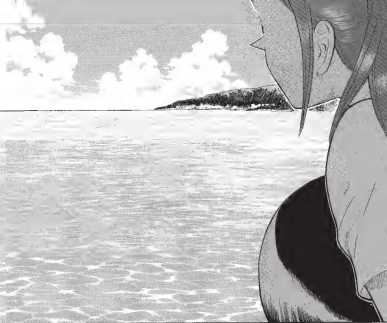


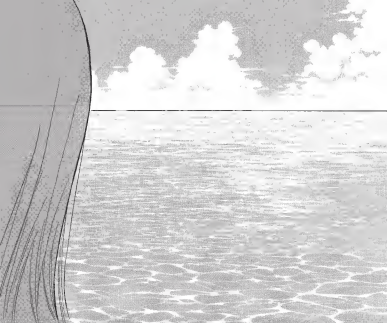
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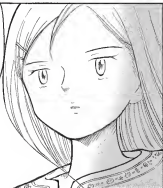








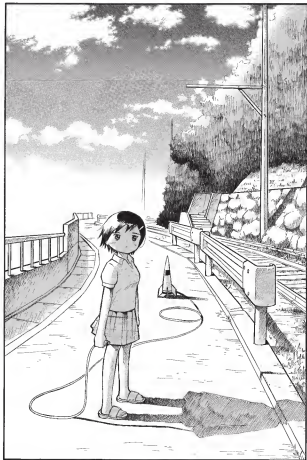
YUUSA-
HAMAZ



STORY
ガザン
ゴッ

THIS IS









SHUT
UP!

IF THERE
ARE LOTS
OF STAIRS,
CAN'T WE
DROP OFF
OUR
LUGGAGE
FIRST?



THAT'S
BECAUSE
A TRAIN
ROLLED
OVER!

IT'S YOUR
FAULT
FOR
TAKING
SO LONG!



DON'T
MAKE
UP
STUPID
LIES,

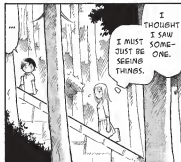
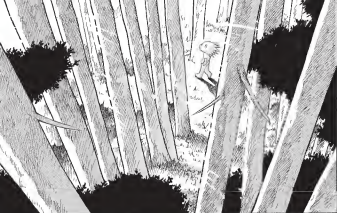
DUMMY!

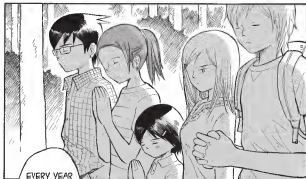
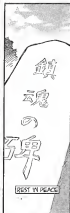
IT'S
TRUE!

IT
TOTALLY
ROLLED
OVER!

123,
ACTUALLY
...

THERE
MUST
BE
100
STEPS.





EVERY YEAR
ON THE
ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
CRASH



AND PRAY
FOR THE
SOULS OF
THE
DECEASED.

ALL THE
TOWNS-
PEOPLE
BRING
CANDLES
AND BATHER
BEFORE THIS
MEMORIAL



BUT THE
MEMORIAL
LOOKED
LIKE A
ROCKET ON
ITS WAY
TO HEAVEN.

WHEN I
WAS A KID
I DIDN'T
REALLY
UNDERSTAND
WHAT THAT
MEANT,



THAT
HORRIBLE
SIGHT.

BUT THE
PEOPLE OF
YUIGAHAMA
HOPE THAT
NO ONE
EVER
FORGETS

THIS
TOWN
SUFFERED
SUCH A
CATASTROPHE.

YOU'D
NEVER
THINK
THAT



FIRE
ARROWS.

WE LEARNED
THAT
FRESHMAN
YEAR.

UH...

WELL, THE
ORIGINAL
ROCKETS
WERE
CHINESE
WEAPONS.



IF YOU THINK
ABOUT IT,
ROCKET
DEVELOPMENT
RESTS ON MANY
CASUALTIES,
NOT JUST
"THE LION."



YET WE
STILL CAN'T
GIVE UP
ON GOING
TO SPACE.

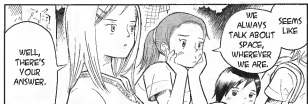
I
WONDER
WHY.

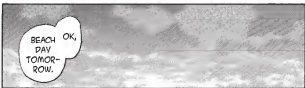


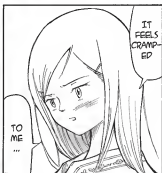
LIAR!

I WAS
JUST
GONNA
SAY
THAT!

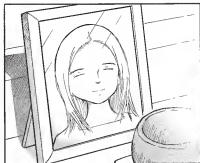
I KNOW
THAT!!









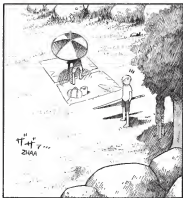
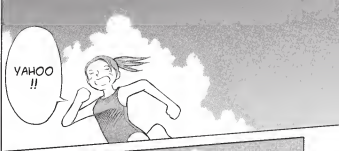




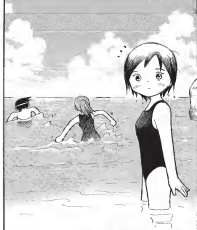








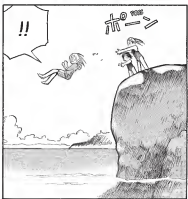




YOU SHOULD GET SOME SUN.

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR BONES!



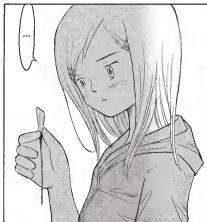














IN
YUIGA-
HAMA.

I MET HER,
YEARS AGO.



THERE
ARE



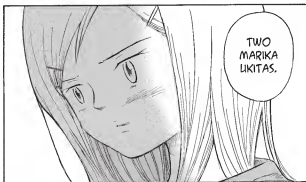
THE
TRUTH
IS

WELL,
MAYBE NOT,
TO BE
PRECISE.

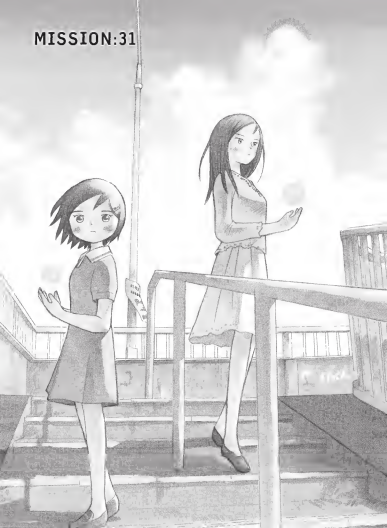


THAT
WAS

MANY YEARS
BEFORE YOU
WERE BORN.



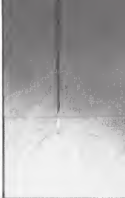
MISSION:31





TWO?

OF
MARIKA
?







ALWAYS
SMILES
SO
SADLY.

I WONDER
WHY
MARIKA



WHAT DID
HE MEAN,
THERE ARE
TWO OF
HER?

I WONDER
WHAT
BURDEN
SHE'S
CARRYING.



I
THOUGHT
IT WAS A
GOOD
CHANCE.

PLUS,
SHE
NEVER
TALKS
ABOUT
HER-
SELF.

GRR...



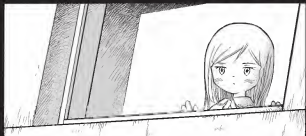
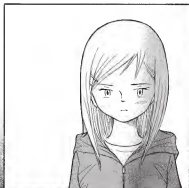
I JUST
THOUGHT
IT'D BE
FUN!

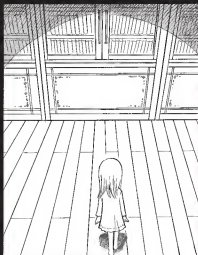
HEY
!

DUM
MY

YOU GOT
TOO
WORKED
UP
MAKING
PEOPLE
TELL THEIR
SECRETS.





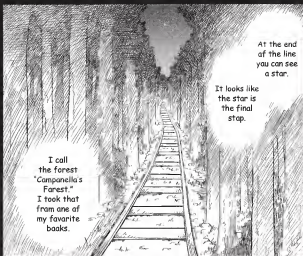








That was in
Yuigahama
but I want
to go again



I call
the forest
"Campanella's
Forest."
I took that
from one of
my favorite
books.

At the end
of the line
you can see
a star.

It looks like
the star is
the final
stop.

How far
must I walk
to get close
to that
star?

My friend
who brought
me there
taught me
how to find
Orion...

If I could walk
all the way down
those tracks.

would I get
any closer
to that star?



I want to
get better
and

run away
from here.

than
I am now
?

Would
I get
any
closer















YOU CAN
EVEN SEE
THE MILKY
WAY!



SOMEDAY
I WANT TO
SHOW YOU
THE NIGHT SKY
IN YUUBAHAMA.



AM I
ALWAYS
REMINDED OF
KAMOBABA
AND THE
OTHERS?

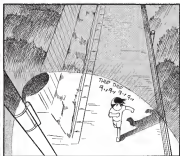


WHY...

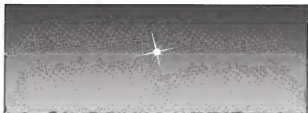
USED TO
BEING
ALONE.

I
THOUGHT
I WAS









THE NAME
OF THAT
SECRET
ROCKET

I WONDER
HOW SHE
KNEW



MAYBE
SHE'S
THERE

IF THERE'S
ANOTHER
MARKA
I DON'T
KNOW,



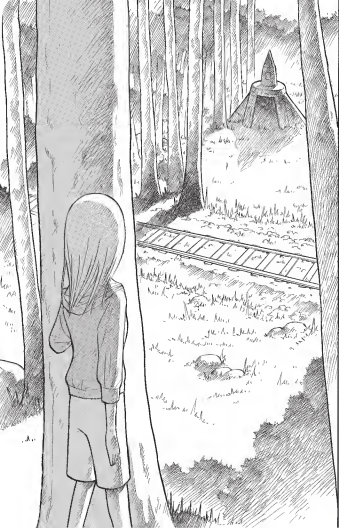
BUT
MR. LION SAID
HE SAW
HER IN
YUIGAHAMA.



SHE SAID
SHE'D
NEVER
LEFT THAT
MANSION
IN
TOKYO.





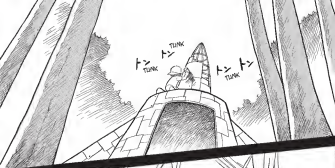




SO WHY
DOES
MY CHEST
FEEL
TIGHT?



IT'S
MY FIRST
TIME
HERE,



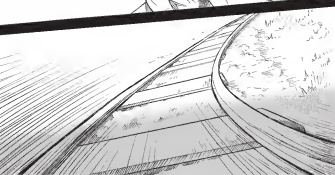
NO...

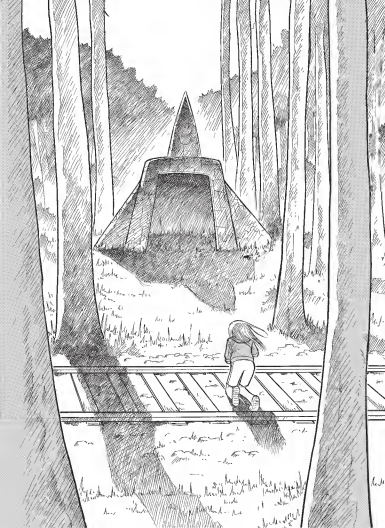
IT'S NOT
ME...



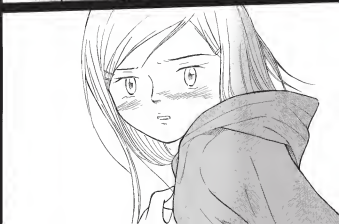
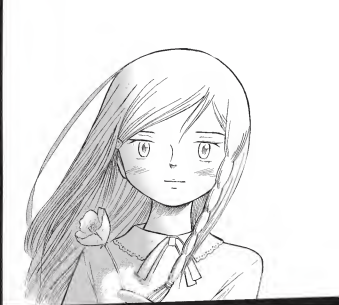
THIS IS
A MEMORY

OF THE
OTHER ME—









HOW
FAR

MUST I
WALK

HOW
FAR

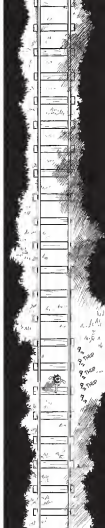
TO GET
CLOSE TO
THAT
STAR?

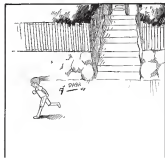
CAN I
CALL YOU
MARIKA
?



MISSION:32





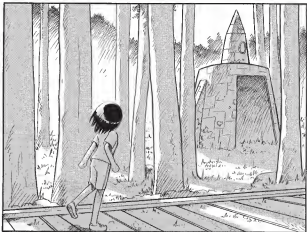


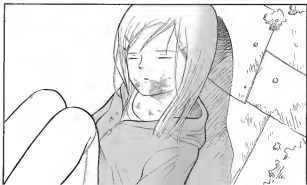


















MARIKA
!!



MARIKA
!

MARIKA,
HANG IN
THERE!



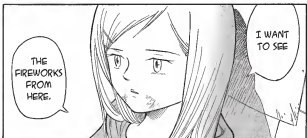
IT
MUST
BE

A
MEMORY
OF THE
OTHER
ME.

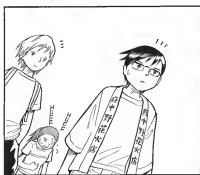


I WAS
DREAM-
ING
...

A
DREAM
FROM
LONG
AGO
...

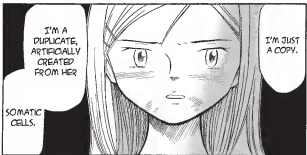
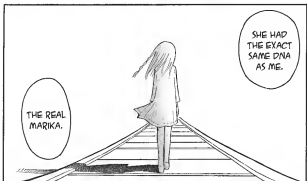


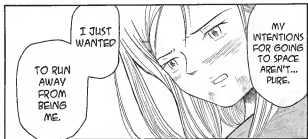




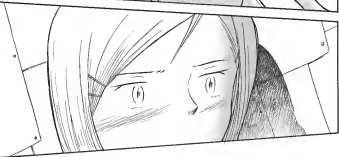
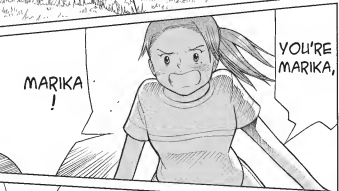














CRANKY,
CHEEKY,
UNCUTE—
YOU PISS
ME OFF,

ALWAYS
SO COOL
AND CALM,

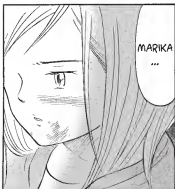


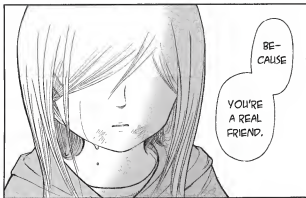
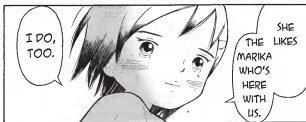
THAT I
WAITED
TO SHARE
IT WITH
IS...

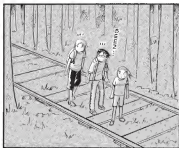
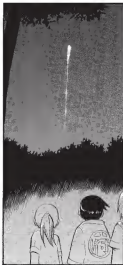
BUT
THE ONE
I MADE
YAKISOBA
FOR



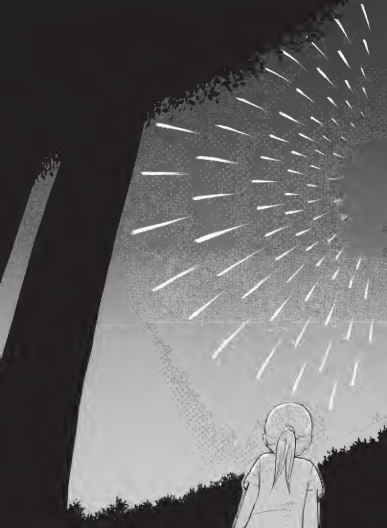
THE ONLY
MARIKA
IN FRONT
OF ME!

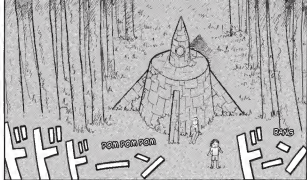














YES,
YOU CAN
WALK ON



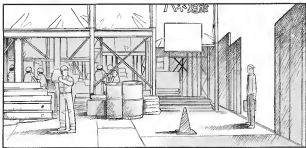
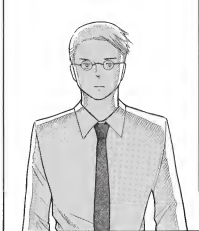
YOU'RE
LOOKING
AT THE
SAME
SKY.



AS
FAR
AS









MISSION:33











WATCH
YOUR
BACK
YOUR-
SELF.

THERE ARE
TONS OF
PEOPLE
WHO WANT
TO TAKE
OVER THE
PROJECT.

IT'S
JAPAN'S
FIRST
MANNED
ROCKET.



OH
...







ALWAYS
THE SKY.

ALWAYS
LOOKING UP
AT THE SAME
THING.



BOTH
YOU



AND
KAMO-
GAWA.

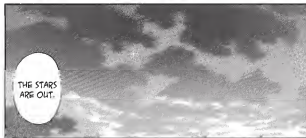


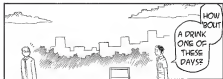








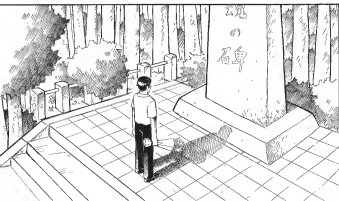














I FEEL
RELIEVED

SHE WAS
A LONGER,
AND
SHE'S
BEEN
THROUGH
A LOT.



SHE'S MADE
GOOD
FRIENDS,
IT SEEMS.

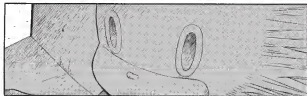
ASUMI SEEMS
TO BE
DOING WELL.

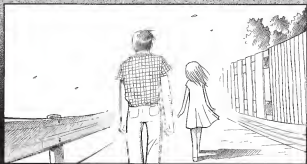


THOUGH
THAT BRAT
FUCHIYA
MIGHT
DISAGREE.

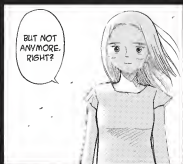
EVEN WITH
A BAD
PARENT
LIKE ME.

KIDS
WILL
BE FINE,





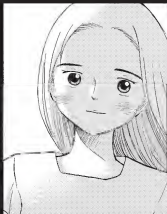


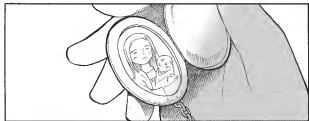


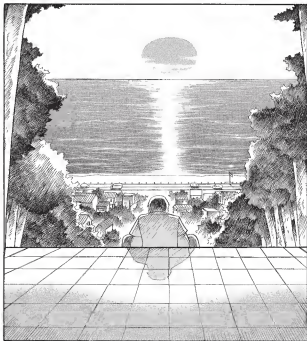


WE'LL
ALWAYS BE
TOGETHER,
WON'T WE
?











ALL
RIGHT,

I SEE.



SHE'S THE
ONLY ONE
LEFT.

SO
NOW





MISSION:34

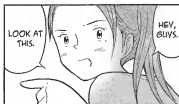














THE JAPAN
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION
WAS
DISCREDITED
HIS CLAIMS
AND DENIED
THAT THE
CLONES
EXIST.

HOWEVER,
SINCE
DR. BERNER
HAS REFUSED
TO RELEASE
THE
DETAILS,

ONE CLONE
IS
JAPANESE.

A SWISS
DOCTOR,
BRUNO BERNER,
HAS
ANNOUNCED
THAT HE HAS
ALREADY
CLONED
5 HUMANS.

HARD
TO
BELIEVE,

SHE SAID
SHE WAS
A COPY.

BUT
DOES
THAT
MEAN
A
CLONE
?

COULD
THIS BE
ABOUT
MARIKA?

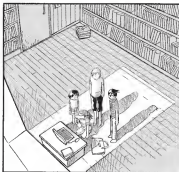
THE
LION
CRASH
KEPT
THIS
FROM
BECOMING
BIG
NEWS.

SHOULD
NEVER
HAVE BEEN
BORN.

WHICH
WOULD
MEAN
MARIKA

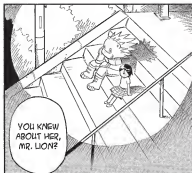
IN 2012,
INTER-
NATIONAL
LAWS
PROHIBITED
HUMAN
CLONING.

I'M
DENSE
AND
SLOW,
BUT I
SEARCH-
ED.















BESIDES,
YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO'LL
SUFFER.

I CAN'T ALLOW
YOU TO ATTEND
SOME SPACE
ACADEMY.



THEN
I'LL TELL
THE WORLD
ABOUT MY
SECRET.



WILL BE
RUINED.

AND
YOU
AND
I



WANTED
TO RUN
AWAY

I
JUST



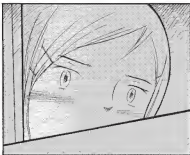
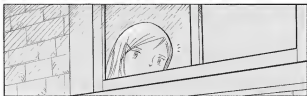
TO A PLACE
NO ONE
KNOWS, THE
FARTHEST PLACE
FROM HERE.

TO A
PLACE
FAR,
FAR AWAY.













PEOPLE
WHO ONLY
SEE THE ME
WHO'S
RIGHT HERE.

THAT
THERE
ARE
NOW



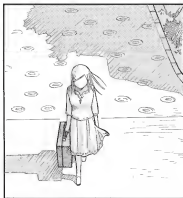
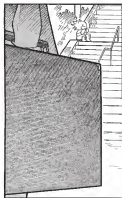
TO GO
TO SPACE
HAS WELLED UP
INSIDE ME
TOO.

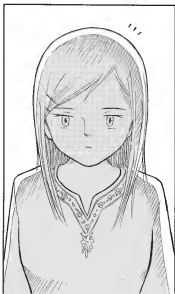
AND THAT
I DON'T
JUST WANT
TO GET AWAY.
THAT A HOT
DESIRE...

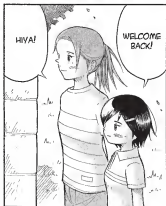
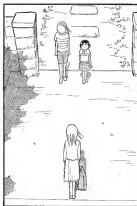
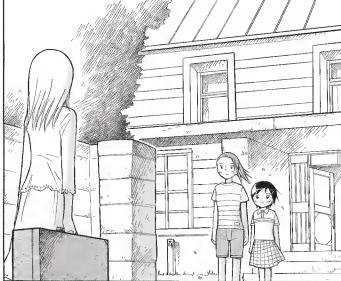


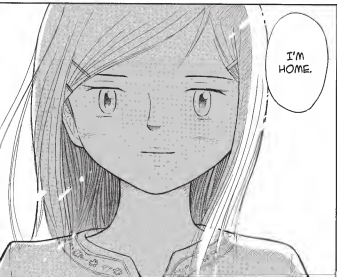
THAT
I'VE
STARTED
TO SHARE
THEIR
DREAM.

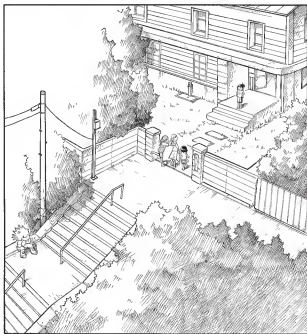


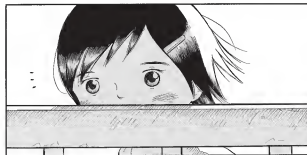
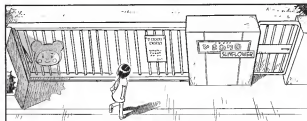


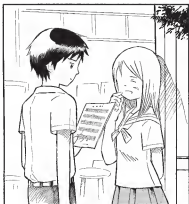






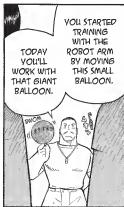


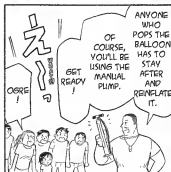
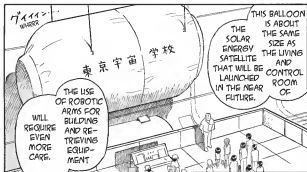


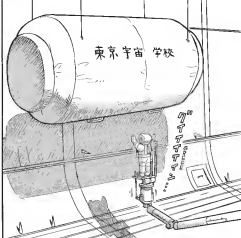


MISSION:35

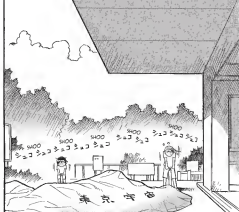




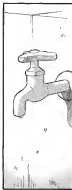


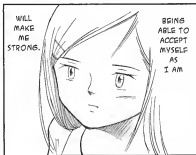


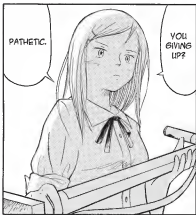


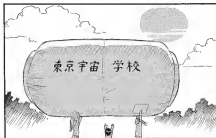


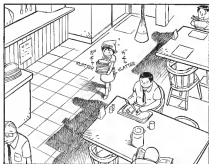




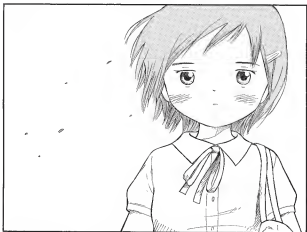








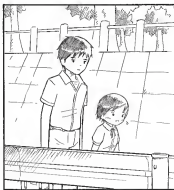
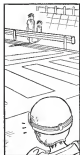




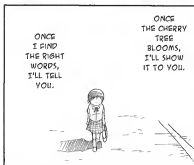


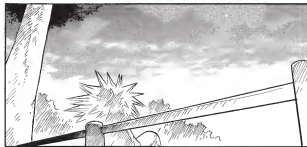


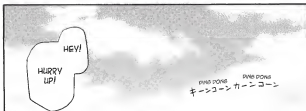






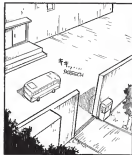








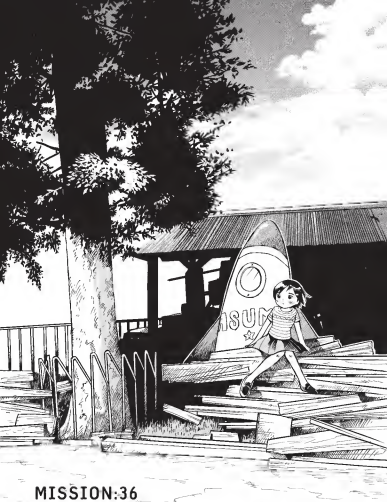






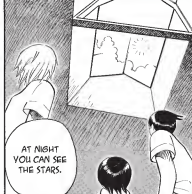






MISSION:36







WE'RE
CURRENTLY
IN
WARD 1.

SEEN FROM
ABOVE,
THERE ARE
3 WARDS
RADIATING
FROM THE
CENTER.



WE'LL DO
THE
TRAINING
HERE,
STARTING
TODAY.

THIS IS AN
ABANDONED
PRISON.



RESPOND
WHEN
YOUR NAME
IS CALLED.

YOU WILL
COOPERATE
WITH YOUR
TEAMMATES
TO COMPLETE
A MISSION.

YOU'LL
BE
DIVIDED
INTO 3
TEAMS,
A, B
AND C.



RU-
CHU-
YA.

HERE.

TEAM B.

OGI-
KU-
BO.



MITAKA.

HERE.

KOKU-
BUNJI.

HERE.

TEAM A.

SHU
SUZUKI.

HE'S
ALWAYS
FIRST!

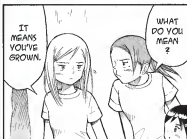
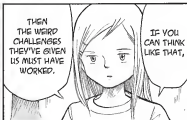


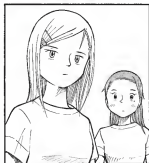














KEI OUMI,
PLEASE
ENTER.

OK.



I'LL DO
MY
BEST,

THANKS

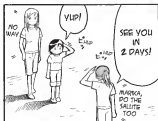


I DAY
EARLY.
LET'S
TRY.



I THINK
YOU'RE
THE ONE

WHO'S
GROWN
THE
MOST.



NO
WAY

YUI!

SEE YOU
IN
2 DAYS!

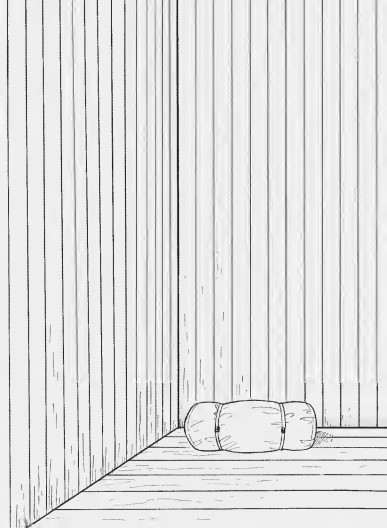
MARIKA,
DO THE
SALUTE
TOO



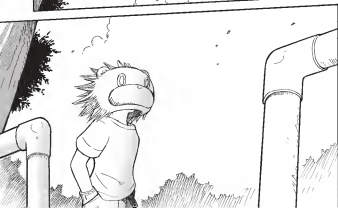
MARIKA.

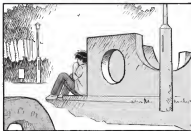


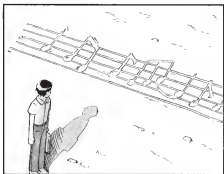








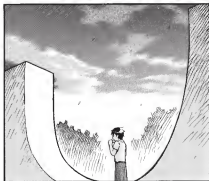






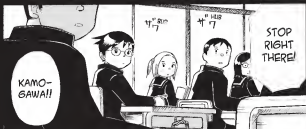
REALLY
GENTLE
SOUNDS.

BUT
YOU
MAKE









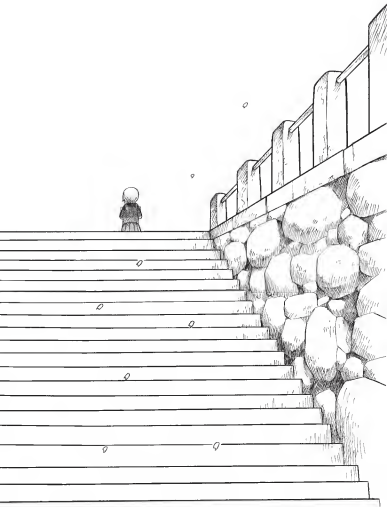


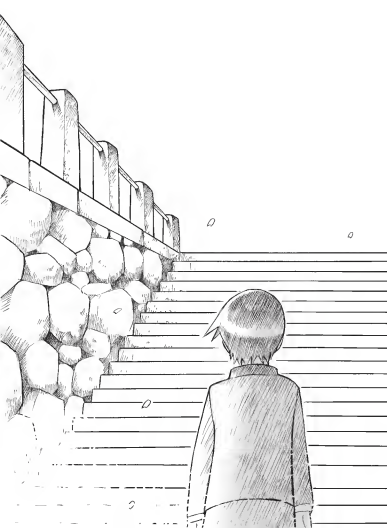
THE
"MR. LION"
THAT
KAMOBAWA
GOES ON
ABOUT

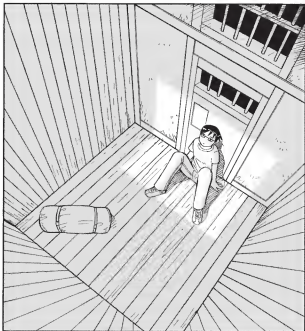
HE
COULD
SEE

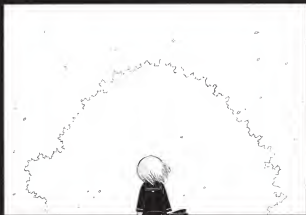
















BUT
EVERY TIME
IT'S THE
SAME
FEELING.

I'VE HAD
THE SAME
DREAM
SO MANY
TIMES,

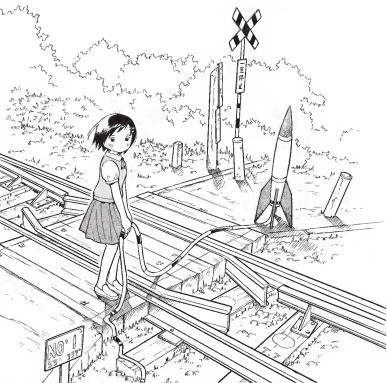
YET
MY CHEST
FEELS
TIGHT.

IT'S
NOT
SAD,

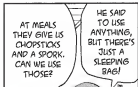


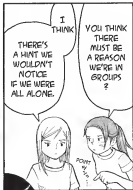


MISSION:37











HUH?



ON THE OTHER HAND, MAYBE THE SCHOOL ADDED SOMETHING TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO ESCAPE.



BUT THE WOOD PANELING IN THE CELLS ALL LOOK KIND OF NEW.

ONE THING THAT'S BEEN BUGGING ME... THIS BUILDING IS OLD AND PARTS ARE DETERIORATING.



BLUNDER...

SISH



LR

WE DIDN'T END UP WITH ANY PLAN!

WHAT'LL WE DO?!

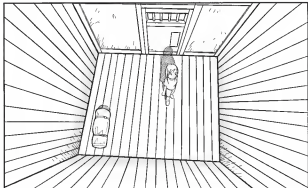


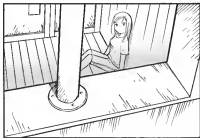
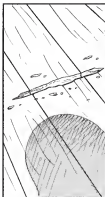
TEAM C, TIME'S UP.

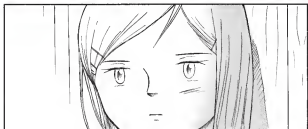
USE THE BATHROOMS AND SHOWERS THEN RETURN TO YOUR CELLS.

WHAT?!

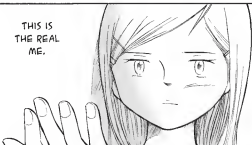
SO SOON?







THIS IS
THE REAL
ME.



I'M ABLE
TO BELIEVE
I SEE
THE SAME
COLORS AS
EVERYONE
ELSE.

BUT I'M
NOT THE
SAME
AS
BEFORE.



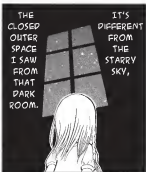
THE
EXPANSIVE
UNIVERSE
THAT
EVERYONE
ELSE SEES.

I CAN
SEE



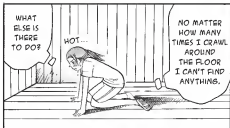
THE
CLOSED
OUTER
SPACE
I SAW
FROM
THAT
DARK
ROOM.

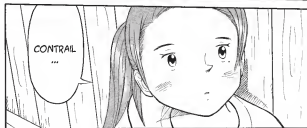
IT'S
DIFFERENT
FROM
THE
STARRY
SKY,



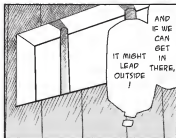


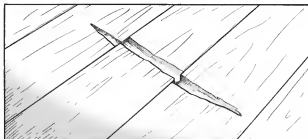


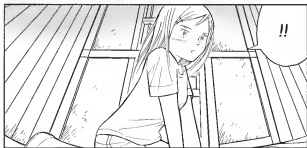






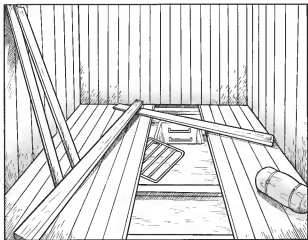












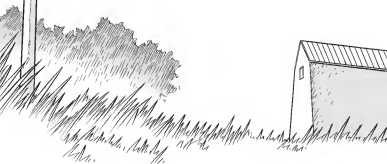




東京宇宙学校

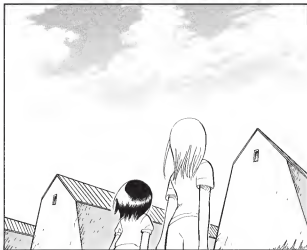
TOKYO SPACE SCHOOL

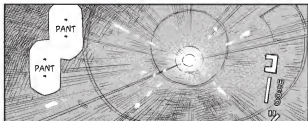
C

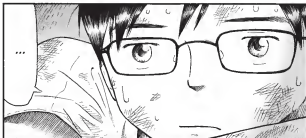






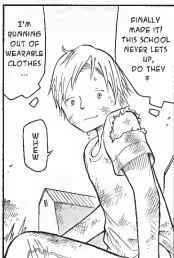
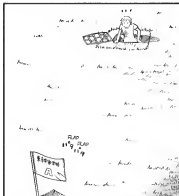








MISSION:38

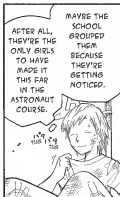






UNLIKE THE
LONG-HAUL
ROCKET
MISSIONS
AIMED FOR
MARS, LIKE
"THE LION,"

THE SOLAR
ENERGY
SATELLITE
THEY'RE
PLANNING
AND
OTHER
SHORT-
HAUL
MISSIONS



AFTER ALL,
THEY'RE THE
ONLY GIRLS
TO HAVE
MADE IT
THIS FAR
IN THE
ASTRONAUT
COURSE.

MAYBE THE
SCHOOL
GROUPED
THEM
BECAUSE
THEY'RE
GETTING
NOTICED.



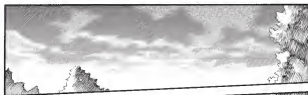
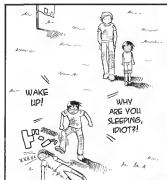
JUST LIKE
ASUMI.

WILL
NEED AS
MUCH
STORAGE
SPACE
AS
SMALL AND
POSSIBLE.
AGILE.





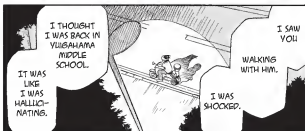
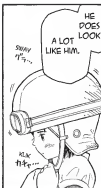




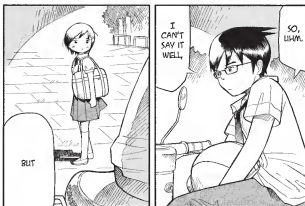


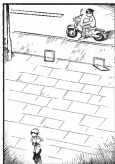
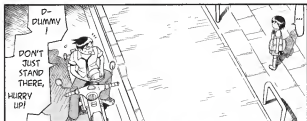
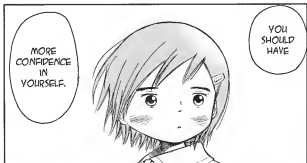






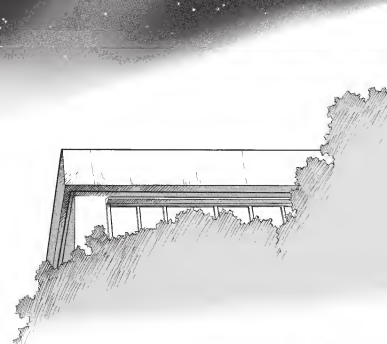










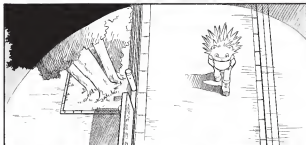




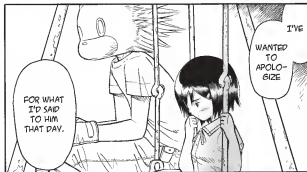








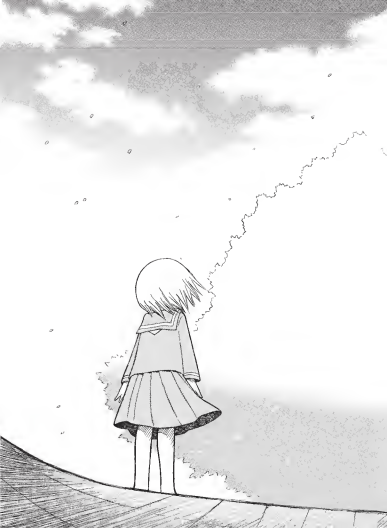


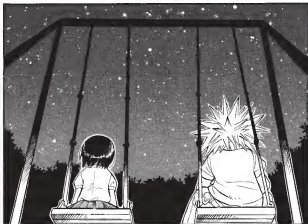
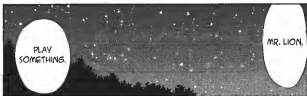




I'VE
ALWAYS,
ALWAYS

WANTED TO
SEE HIM.





ANOTHER SPICA



KOU YAGINUMA

and, for
that winter,
egg salad on
baguette and
corn soup.



The menu:
freshly squeezed
orange juice
for 360 yen,
ham sandwiches,



I was still
working at
that theme park
on the bay.



This was
many winters
ago.



WHY?
YOU
DATING
SOME-
ONE,
RICHYA?
!

I HAVE
NOT PLANS.
WORKING
CHRISTMAS
EVE.



DON'T
LUMP ME
IN WITH
YOU.

WORK-
ING
THROUGH
ANOTHER
CHRIST-
MAS.



No matter the season
or how many
new items we had,
the place was
always deserted.

THEY'RE
LIGHTING
THE TREE
SOON.



DUNNO

WHAT
ABOUT
KAMOMI?
!

A LOVER!

SHE'S A
NEW-
BIE!



I THINK
YOU'LL BE
WORKING
ALONE.

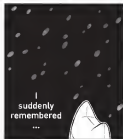
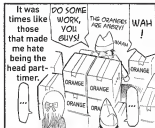
THAT
OK?



THE
STOCK
GIRL,
SANGO?
!

WHO
IS SHE?
!

VLIP.





When I was a junior high kid in a collared uniform,



I used to watch her climb up 5 flights of stairs every day after school.

I had a crush on a classmate who lived in a public housing complex near my house.



All I could do was gaze at her from afar. Of course, I couldn't call out to her, either.



But I could never close that gap.



Since we took the same route home, sometimes I'd see her on the way,

She was
2 inches
taller than
me.



The
reason
?

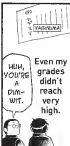


but I
didn't
dare
to.

My
friends
told me
to confess
my love
to her,



I spent all night
thinking of
something
I had that
she didn't but
couldn't find
an answer.



Even my
grades
didn't
reach
very
high.

She was
the very last.
I tried to stretch
to be taller.



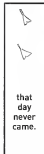
When we lined up
according to
height,

FRONT
AND
CENTER!

I was
3rd
from the
front.



that
day
never
came.



In the
end,



I decided
I would
confess my
feelings for her
when I grew taller
than her.

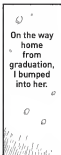
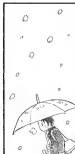
BASSLESS
CONFIDENCE +
MISGUIDED POSITIVITY



but at
the time
it felt
like a
huge
difference.

When
I think of
it now,
it was silly
to worry
over
2 inches,





our first
and last
conversation.



That was



I'd
waited
for her,
so
I could tell
her how
I felt.



Actually,
it wasn't
by chance.

It was
the
first time
I'd cried
over a
broken
heart.



I sat on
the bank
in front of
my house
and
started
to cry.



But
for
some
reason,

I
couldn't
do it
after all.





the very
fact
becomes
a memory.



No matter how
it starts or
how pathetically
it ends,

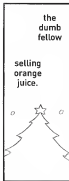


All that
must be
what loving
someone
is about.



making
me feel
forlorn,
but also
warm
and kind.

And once
in a while
it comes back
in vivid
detail,



the
dumb
fellow

selling
orange
juice.



even



And
the tree
decorator,

and
the janitor,



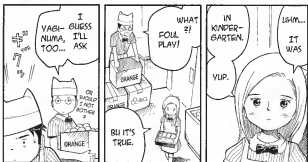
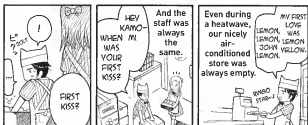
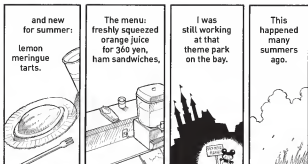
No doubt
all those
couples

have had
various
encounters.

ANOTHER SPICA



KOU YAGINUMA





I wanted to see it in person.

The most memorable was an old train station.



My destinations were the locations used in a film that I liked.



On a glaring summer day

I rented a car and went for a drive.



THIS WAY!
The station I finally found

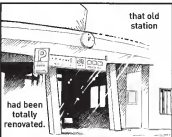


and spent 4 hours on the coastline with map in hand. I got lost along the way



I knew it was just a selfish wish.

I know that quite well.



that old station

had been totally renovated.

I was
recalling
days
I could
never go
back to.



because



But still,
it made
me sad



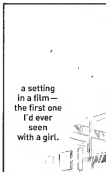
to get
to talk
more.



I wanted
you
and me



a setting
in a film—
the first one
I'd ever
seen
with a girl.



That
station
was



I wanted
you and me
to ride
on the
same
bike.





RESOLUTE
AMERICAN~♪

The
conversations
we have today
will become
memories,
too.



HOW
MUCH
?

I
DON'T
NEED
MONEY,
FOOL!



WHIH?



AFTER
WORK
I'LL GIVE
YOU A
RIDE
HOME.



cry and
laugh over
trifles.

Such
days will
probably
stretch on.

シヤコ

THIS ISN'T
REALLY
"SHOT-
GUN."

I'm sure
I'll continue to

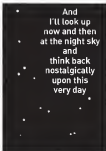
make little
mistakes;
have regrets;
put up
silly facades;



the light
is but an
illusion.



even if
I know



And
I'll look up
now and then
at the night sky
and
think back
nostalgically
upon this
very day

Notes on the Translation

P. 13

Asked by a newspaper why he wanted to scale Mt. Everest, the English mountaineer George Mallory (1886-1924) is reported to have answered, "Because it's there." While the exact terse phrasing may not have been Mallory's, his simple rationale has resonated with numerous explorers. A year after his immortal reply, he perished in an expedition on the world's tallest mountain's north face.



P. 14

"Ringo Shrine," too cute to be true, no doubt isn't. Though the second character has been substituted for another with the same phonetic reading, "ringo" means apple. Meanwhile, the first character, which means woods, is a common enough name for shrines.



P. 186

Mitaka, Kokubunji, and Ogikubo are all stations on the Chuo line west of Tokyo. Readers may recall that a string of student names in volume six were taken from stops on the Oume line.



Production - Hiroko Mizuno
Tomoe Tsutsumi
Rina Nakayama

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